

September 7, 2021

Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner Mayo, and Commissioner Thurlow were present at a regular meeting beginning at 8:00 a.m. The minutes were approved as printed. Payroll in the amount of \$182,340.35 was reviewed and approved by the Board. Account payables in the amount of \$601,993.41 were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Austin Gillard, CCMC CEO, met with the Board to give an update on the Clay Center Medical Center. Joel Mason, County Attorney, joined the meeting. Mr. Gillard reported that the Clay Center Family Physicians remodel project, dietary project, and the negative air flow project have all been completed. The parking lot project on the west side of the Medical Center has started and will be completed in October. The Glasco Clinic will be opening on November 2, 2021 for services. CCMC has received a vaccine grant to hire a nurse that will give the COVID vaccine and answer clients questions. CCMC is researching and looking at different options for a possible dialysis center. Mr. Gillard informed the Board that they have done a partial refinance on the hospital bond. The refinance bond will be for 10 years with a savings of \$569,751.02. This is large savings for the community. Mr. Gillard reported that the EMS Department has been great to work with and are very helpful when needed.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business. The Board discussed the use of the time clock Countywide and having work comp coverage while on the job. The contracted County Indigent fee and the case load was reviewed.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Joel Mason joined the meeting. The Board reviewed the use of the time clock and informed Mr. Shomper that anytime an employee is on the job they need to be clocked in and the policy for Clay County is no comp time used. Last week the Department graded roads, hauled rock, and mowed roadsides. Mr. Shomper reported that they had to purchase tires from Kansasland for an estimated amount for \$4,000. Kansasland is the only place to purchase this size of tires and there is a concern that tires may get difficult to purchase when needed. Commissioner Carlson asked Mr. Shomper about the estimate cost that was given for making a dirt road into a gravel road. The Board stated that it is Clay County policy that if an individual chooses to put a home on a dirt road, the individual will be responsible for paying for the material to make the road into a gravel road. This would include the road rock, scalping and a driveway pipe if needed. The County will not charge for the labor for this project, just the materials. After the road is made into a gravel road, the County will continue and pay for the maintenance of the road.

Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, met with the Board to report that the Landfill has reported a theft to the Sheriff's Department for investigation.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer reported the year-to-date revenue and stated that the Department continues to stay busy with emergency runs and out of town transfers. The Lucas mechanical compression devices have been ordered. Mr. Cramer reported that staffing could become an issue with the COVID pandemic. So far, they have been able to fill all shifts with PRN employees.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, met with the Board to give an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Kemp reported that we currently have 78 positive cases and following 138 individuals within the County. The Board asked Ms. Kemp to research the different types of storm shelters to see what would work at the Fairgrounds if there was to be a new building built.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, and Jim Bogart, Undersheriff, met with the Board to open the bids received for a new patrol unit. Undersheriff Bogart presented a comparison between the Ford Explorer and the Dodge Durango. There are pros and cons to both types of vehicles, but the Ford Explorer seems to be more user friendly and handles better. The Officers spend a lot of hours in their patrol units and need to be comfortable to do their jobs. Two bids were received and were opened in the meeting as follows:

Friesen CDJR – 2022 Dodge Durango Pursuit Vehicle AWD V6 - \$37,228.12

2022 Dodge Durango Pursuit Vehicle AWD V8 HEMI - \$39,912.30

Glavan Ford – 2022 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor AWD 3.3L V6 - \$36,852.38

After reviewing the bids, Commissioner Mayo made the motion to accept the bid from Glavan Ford on a 2022 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor Unit in the amount of \$36,852.38. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Sheriff Benninga reported that it was a very busy weekend with the Longford Rodeo. Every year the traffic after the Rodeo becomes an issue. They will be looking into a better way to direct the traffic for next year.

Jake Young met with the Board to get permission to hold the 2nd Ian Roetman Memorial Ball Tournament at the Clay County Fairgrounds on October 2, 2021. Mr. Young also asked permission to have Scanoli's manage a beer garden at the tournament. Mr. Young presented a map of the grounds and showed the Board where the fencing would be placed to make the area contained for the beer garden. This year they are requesting a larger area for the garden because they are going to have a band for entertainment. They would like for people to be able to take their beers and listen to the music and to be able to view all of the ballfields. It will be a fun filled day with 16 teams signed up to play ball. After discussion, Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to allow a larger beer garden at the 2nd Ian Roetman Memorial Ball Tournament. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board approved a request received from Leah Knitter to use the Courthouse Square for the Kindergarten ABC Bootcamp on Thursday September 30th from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Permission was granted for the event.

The Board signed an Event Approval for an employee of the Treasurer's Office to attend a conference in Wichita, Kansas.

Natalie Muruato, Economic Development Director, met with the Board to give an Economic Development update for Clay County. Ms. Muruato presented a draft copy of the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan that the County is considering for Residential single and multi-family dwellings. Several options were presented and the Board stated that they would like Ms. Muruato to come back next week for their decisions. Ms. Muruato gave a report on several meetings that she has attended, contacts that she has made, and meetings with businesses. Ms. Muruato stated that she has painted and

did some updating to her office. She is working on a list of services that the Economic Development Office provides and will be pushing this information out for the public and businesses to use.

Dustin Avey, Piper Sandler, called the Board by phone to report on the partial refinancing of the hospital bonds. Mr. Avey reported that they were able to lock in an interest rate of 1.91% on this bond with a savings of \$569,751.02. This was well worth the cost of refinancing the bond. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to adopt Resolution 2021-14 stating: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE SALE, ISSUANCE AND DELIVERY OF TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2021-B, OF THE CLAY COUNTY, KANSAS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDS TO REFUND A PORTION OF THE ISSUER'S OUTSTANDING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF AN ANNUAL TAX FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON SAID BONDS AS THEY BECOME DUE; MAKING CERTAIN COVENANTS AND AGREEMENTS TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT AND SECURITY THEREOF AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN OTHER DOCUMENTS AND ACTIONS CONNECTED THEREWITH. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The closing of the bond issuance will be held on October 5th, 2021.

The Board signed an Event Approval for an employee of the Appraiser's Office to attend a meeting in Salina, Kansas.

Kayla Wang, County Clerk, met with the Board to request permission for the County Clerk's Office to work overtime hours for the November General Election. Permission was granted.

The Board approved mitigation pay on three employees at County Health Department for the contact tracing on positive COVID-cases. They agreed to make it retro-active to August 15th, 2021 with unlimited hours through the month of September. They will then review it and decide if they will extend it or end it at the end of September.

Arnie Knoettgen, County Maintenance, met with the Board to discuss the carpet in the Register of Deeds Office. Mr. Knoettgen reported

The Board adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Eric A. Carlson, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
September 13, 2021
Clay Center, Kansas